

payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3). Please consider the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action mailed July 27, 2000, Claims 1 and 17-39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly rendered obvious by Derwent Publication Abstract No. 77-872784 to Hiraiwa Daiku ("Hiraiwa Daiku") in view of Derwent Publication Abstract No. 81-06781D to Yoshitomi Pharm. ("Yoshitomi Pharm."), Chemical Abstract No. 1993:497510 to Yamauchi ("Yamauchi"), WO95/22902 to Kodama et al. ("Kodama") and Chemical Abstract No. 1987:454179 to Metzner et al. ("Metzner"). The Examiner has alleged that Hiraiwa Daiku teaches a wood adhesive composition consisting essentially of a suitable amount of insecticide and an adhesive, and that Kodama teaches that pyrazole compounds including fipronil are useful as insecticides. Yoshitomi Pharm. and Yamauchi are cited as teaching specific adhesives, and Metzner is cited as teaching that compositions consisting of adhesive and a biocide are useful in wood products. It would have been obvious, the Examiner has alleged, to modify the composition of Hiraiwa Daiku by employing fipronil as the insecticide and specific resins as the adhesive.

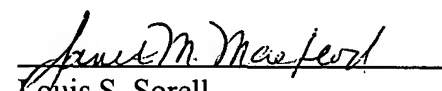
Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of the present claims is not rendered obvious by the combination of Hiraiwa Daiku and the four secondary references. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, suggest the combination of the claimed compounds, such as fipronil, with a wood adhesive. Kodama teaches that fipronil may be used to treat soil or wood products, but neither Kodama nor any other reference suggests combining fipronil with a wood adhesive.

Further, there would have been no reason to expect that a composition comprising fipronil and a wood adhesive would maintain the adhesive and insectical properties of the individual components. Rather, these properties of the claimed composition have been discovered in accordance with the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that there would have been neither motivation nor reasonable expectation of success in combining the cited references. Withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1 and 17-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1 and 17-39 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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